

**OLD BLACKSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL (OBMS)
TRANSITION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2008**

Present

Blacksburg

Councilman Paul Lancaster
Town Manager Marc Verniel
Citizen Member Kathryn Albright

Montgomery County

BoS Member Gary Creed
Assistant County Administrator Carol Edmonds

Absent

County Administrator Clay Goodman
Citizen Member Gary McCoy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Acceptance of Minutes of November 28, 2007

Mr. Lancaster asked that the following sentence be removed from the section entitled **County/Town Negotiations and Public Process-proceed to development**: "Once the ten finalists are announced, a request will be made to the Town of Blacksburg to rezone the property and amend their Comprehensive Plan." Mr. Lancaster noted that reference to the Town's Comprehensive Plan process will be discussed by the OBMS Transition Committee later in this meeting and referenced in the minutes of 2/27/08.

On a motion by Marc Verniel, seconded by Gary Creed and carried unanimously, the Minutes of November 28, 2007 were approved as amended.

Details on Design Competition

Donna Dunay, Virginia Tech Architecture Professor, distributed the following timeline for the OBMS competition:

Old Blacksburg Middle School Competition Timeline:

February 26, 2008

COMPETITION ORGANIZATION (3-4 months - March/April - July 08)

- Start competition with meeting to collect public and government comments to draft competition documents
- Schedule and prepare agenda for Public Meeting - **April 24 - May 1**
Tripp Muldrow, Facilitator
- Organize competition for two-stages
- Competition schedule/ budget/ revenues
- Jurors qualifications:
Architecture and town planning - commissions and research

Mixed-use residential-commercial architect/developer-builder
 Planning, economic development processes in Virginia
 Community architecture
 Civic architecture design and construction

- Website preparation for competition launch
- Prepare documents for media and web competition announcements
- Exhibition site for jury arranged

COMPETITION - STAGE 1 (3-4 months - August - November 08)

- Registration opens to design professionals and developers - **Mid-August**
- Jury Orientation
- Competition Exhibition for jury deliberations and public viewing – **November**
- Jury deliberation and presentation of 5 stage 1 projects selected to receive Awards and advance to stage 2 – **November**
- Open meeting for public comment and discussion of the 5 selected stage 1 projects

COMPETITION - STAGE 2 (3-4 months - January - April 09)

- 5 stage 2 projects present team qualifications - **December 15**
- Stage 2 project teams receive public comments and begin - **Mid-January**
- Competition Exhibition for jury deliberations and public viewing
- Jury deliberation of 5 stage 2 projects - **April 1**
- Jury presents determination to OBMS Transition Committee
- Public presentation of Project Award

County Town Negotiations and Public Process to Proceed to development

Mr. Creed recalled that jurors' qualifications had included someone with a financial background, which is not listed on the current document provided by Ms. Dunay. Ms. Dunay explained that Tripp Muldrow of Arnett Muldrow and Associates, a process consultant who has been working with her on the competition guidelines, will give a financial reading to the jurors and to the OBMS Transition Committee after the completion of Stage 1.

The Committee discussed how to best approach the request to rezone the property and amend the Town's Comprehensive Plan to accommodate moving ahead with Stage 2 after the five finalists have been chosen.

Agreeing that the County would be the applicant for the rezoning, the request could include proffers that would specify that use of the property would be limited to those uses as outlined in the plans submitted by the five finalists in the design competition. Mr. Verniel suggested that a development agreement between the Town and the County also be considered.

There was also discussion about developing a website when the competition is launched. Mr. Lancaster reported that Virginia Tech will help with the technical aspect of a web site. He will ask Heather Browning, the Town's Community Relations Manager to get in touch with the County's new Public Information Officer and discuss the web site, news releases about the competition, and news releases announcing the public meeting.

Details also need to be worked out about an exhibition site for the jury, as well as a location for the public meeting.

Once the five finalists have been chosen, Mr. Creed recommended that the jurors provide the Committee with information about the order in which the finalists were selected, and why they were selected. Ms. Dunay indicated the jurors would provide a written report at that point.

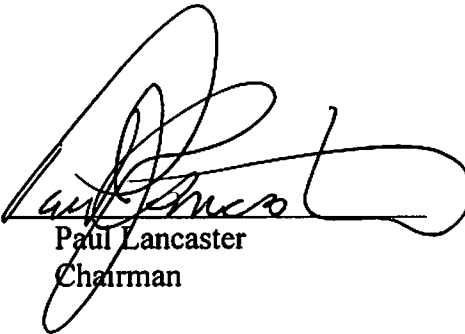
Based on the Committee's discussion, Ms. Dunay will provide an amended competition timeline.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the OBMS Transition Committee was scheduled for **Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.**

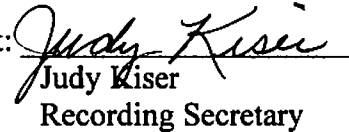
The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Approved:



Paul Lancaster
Chairman

Attest:



Judy Kiser
Recording Secretary